

ENTERTAINMENT / G1
Big stars turn up for Inquirer's 21st anniversary party

BUSINESS / B1
Strong peso eases RP foreign debt by $2.7B

SPORTS / A24
Taekwondo's Go, billiards' Gabica settle for silver



WORLD / A28
Int'l Human Rights Day: Women worldwide protest rape in Darfur

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS
Monday, December 11, 2006 ★★ 9 sections / Vol. 22 / No. 3 P18

Con-ass death shows people power alive

By Amando Doronila

ANALYSIS

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO AVERTED a confrontation with a resurgent people power movement when she hastily called off on Saturday a determined final push by her congressional allies to ram through the constituent assembly (Con-ass) as a mechanism to shift to the parliamentary from the presidential system.

Asean summit reset for Jan. 10-13

CEBU CITY—PHILIPPINE OFFICIALS YESTERDAY announced the deferred Southeast Asian summit may be held Jan. 10-13 but reports persisted that its postponement was prompted by security fears rather than a typhoon that sideswiped the city and caused little damage.

3 Filipino boxers share same pair of shorts, shirt



INC warned GMA of public outrage

Concern over Con-ass relayed to JDV group

By Christine O. Avendaño

THE INFLUENTIAL IGLESIA ni Cristo (INC) has told President Macapagal-Arroyo of its concern over the country's political stability in the face of moves by her House allies to revise the Constitution even without Senate participation, the Inquirer learned yesterday.



DOUBLE DISASTER. Over a week after Supertyphoon "Reming" left 90 percent of all houses either destroyed or damaged in Marinduque, including this hut, Typhoon "Seniang" battered the island-province again yesterday.

'Seniang' leaves 5 dead in Visayas

By Inquirer Visayas, Inquirer Southern Luzon and Blanche S. Rivera

Bury Con-ass bid, allies urge De Venecia

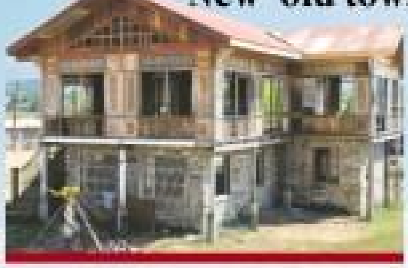
By Michael Lim Ubac and TJ Burgonio

IT IS TIME TO ENTOMB CON-ASS.

Pagcor beats CBCP to venue of Dec. 15 rally

By Christian V. Esguerra, in Manila and Nestor P. Burgos Jr., Inquirer Visayas

New 'old town' of heritage houses fuels furor



By Tonette Orejas
Inquirer Central Luzon

SPECIAL REPORT



WEATHER FORECAST

Second FRONT PAGE

Cha-cha may delay budget measure

SENATE LEADERS YESTERDAY WARNED THAT the passage of the proposed P1.126 million budget for 2007 before the end of the year might be sidetracked by the House of Representatives' preoccupation with Charter change.

DOJ to show US has jurisdiction over Smith in Makati hearing



PROTESTING IS HARD WORK



Men in uniform nab anti-Charter change youth in QC

NINE MEMBERS OF MILITANT youth organizations campaigning against proposals to amend the Constitution were arrested and held briefly by armed men in military uniforms in Quezon City yesterday afternoon.

Bunye: I didn't force Cruz out

NoKor nuke talks, JPEPA on dinner menu at Palace



Airport bomber escapes

More judges now feel their pay adequate, nationwide poll shows

THERE ARE MORE judges in the Philippines who regard their salaries as "adequate" compared to, say, 10 years ago.

However, according to the latest national survey, 27 percent of the judges believe the general Trial Court Justices are corrupt, 14 percent feel that their colleagues in the Metropolitan Trial Court judges take bribes, and 12 percent think that judges in the Court of Appeals are on the take.

These are some of the findings in the Social Weather Stations 2005-2006 "Diagnostic Study of the Judiciary." The study was sponsored by the Asia Foundation with support from the United States Agency for International Development and was conducted with the close cooperation of the Supreme Court.

Enough earnings

Self-administered questionnaires were mailed to 1,511 judges from regional trial courts, metropolitan trial courts, municipal trial courts, municipal circuit trial courts and Shari'ah courts nationwide between October 2005 and February 2006. They elicited 1,071 responses, translating to a 71-percent response rate—up from the 61-percent response rate in a previous 2003-2004 study.

The SWS study found that the number of judges who regarded their pay as "adequate" rose from 27 percent in a study in 1995-1996, to 22 percent in 2003-2004, to 58 percent in 2005-2006. In the most recent survey, only 41 percent called their compensation "inadequate," compared to 81 percent a decade ago.

And while there was no increase in the percentage of judges who agreed that the Rules of Court encouraged corruption (from 11 percent in 2003-2004 to 13 percent in 2005-2006), those who disagreed with this statement decreased from 81 percent in 2003-2004 to 64 percent in 2005-2006, due to an increase in the undecided vote from 7 percent two years ago to 24 percent this year.

Corrupt

Judges who said there were "many/very many" corrupt judges or justices were broken up into the following proportions: 17 percent felt there were corrupt among RTC judges, 14 percent believed this of MTC judges, 12 percent of Court of Appeals judges, 4 percent of Shari'a Court judges, 4 percent of Sandiganbayan justices and 2 percent of Supreme Court justices.

Trial system OK

For the first time, a larger percentage of judges agreed that the continuous trial system was working (46 percent), compared to the 38 percent who disagreed. This was not the case 10 years ago, when 58 percent disagreed with this statement, and only 35 percent agreed.

The continuous trial system was envisioned as a mode of judicial fact-finding conducted with speed and dispatch so that trials are held on the scheduled dates without needless postponements. In the system, formal issues for trial are defined beforehand and the proceedings are set to be terminated and ready for judgment within 90 days from the date of initial hearing, except for "meritorious reasons" which allow for extensions.

Problems

The top constraints cited by judges for the continuous trial system were problems included: Unavailability of prosecutors (58 percent), unavailability of lawyers and litigants (53 percent), and unavailability of lawyers from the Public Attorney's Office (50 percent).

The study also found that health and hospitalization insurance, as well as improved retirement benefits, were the fringe benefits the judges said they would most appreciate, as 9 out of 10 called them "very important."

Insurance needed

Over 8 of 10 judges said they needed adequate life/disability insurance (85 percent), while only 1 in 10 actually had insurance (11 percent). Meanwhile, 64 percent said they needed to have a financial grant to pursue studies, while only 26 percent actually had a grant.

When asked about the consistency of court decisions, 81 percent agreed that the Supreme Court's decisions followed precedents and 72 percent said decisions by the Court of Appeals were consistent.

Consistency

"The study detected a relation between the judges' appraisal of consistency in the decisions of various courts and their perception of corruption in those courts. The higher their rating of consistency in decisions of a particular court level, the smaller the estimate of the number of corrupt judges in that court level," the SWS said in a statement.

Kate Pedroso, Inquirer Research

Legazpi survivors report hearing voices under mud

Neighbor's story

Miraculously saved



Go green and help Mother Earth this holiday—Greenpeace





Dr. A. S. Sta. Ana, hospitals chief; 86



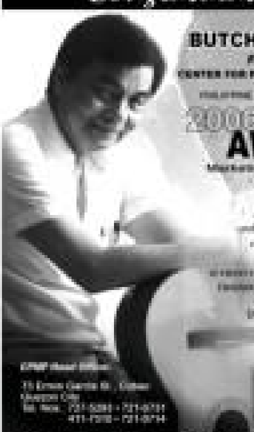


JAPANESE Prime Minister Shinzo Abe ... President Macapagal-Arroyo ... Malacañang. (See story on Page A4.)

Con-ass death shows people power alive

Fatal consequences

Turmoil stalls Mactan show





Bureau calls on higher authority to hike tax take

Leaves canceled

THE DAILY GOSPEL


On its 60th year, Philamlife renews its lifetime commitment to you and your family.
Since its establishment in 1947, Philamlife has always been your stronghold of financial security. Now, it continues to innovate life with a new generation of insurance products: Brilliance for your child's education, Longevity for your savings and protection, Abundance for your investment, and Leisure for your retirement.
Your future is brighter with Philamlife, the country's largest and most trusted life insurance company— backed by AIG, world leaders in insurance and financial services.
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LIFE
AIG
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Only 1 out of 10 children finishes college.
Now, guarantee your child's education with BRILLIANCE.
Brilliance
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Over 32 million Filipinos have no savings.
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60% of Filipinos have savings that lose their value.
Now, maximize your earnings with ABUNDANCE.
Abundance
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80% of Filipinos cannot afford to retire.
Now, secure a comfortable retirement with LEISURE.
Leisure
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Pagcor beats CBCP to venue of Dec. 15 rally

Everything is go

Dawn Mass

3 Filipino boxers share same pair...

Happier of three

Globe and OWWA honor
Model OFW Families

An overachieving nurse from Batangas and her engineer husband, a dockworker from Bacolod who wouldn't be denied a college education, and **an engineer from Jolo** who was an OFW long before the term was coined were this year's principal honorees at the Model OFW Family of the Year Awards (MOFYA).

They each won a **Camella house and lot**, a **Globe Autoload Max retailership** and a **trophy**, among other prizes, from the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) and Globe, major supporter of the event.

Nominees had to meet strict criteria: at least four years of OFW experience for the head of the family, a college degree for at least one child in the family, a solid reputation in the community, and good management of overseas earnings with sustained income from investments or any legitimate entrepreneurial activity. After a daunting screening procedure, seventeen regional winners were chosen and out of them, three families emerged as the Model OFW Families of Year

From OFW nurse to outstanding civil servant





From ship electrician to successful businessman





From pioneer OFW engineer to community leader

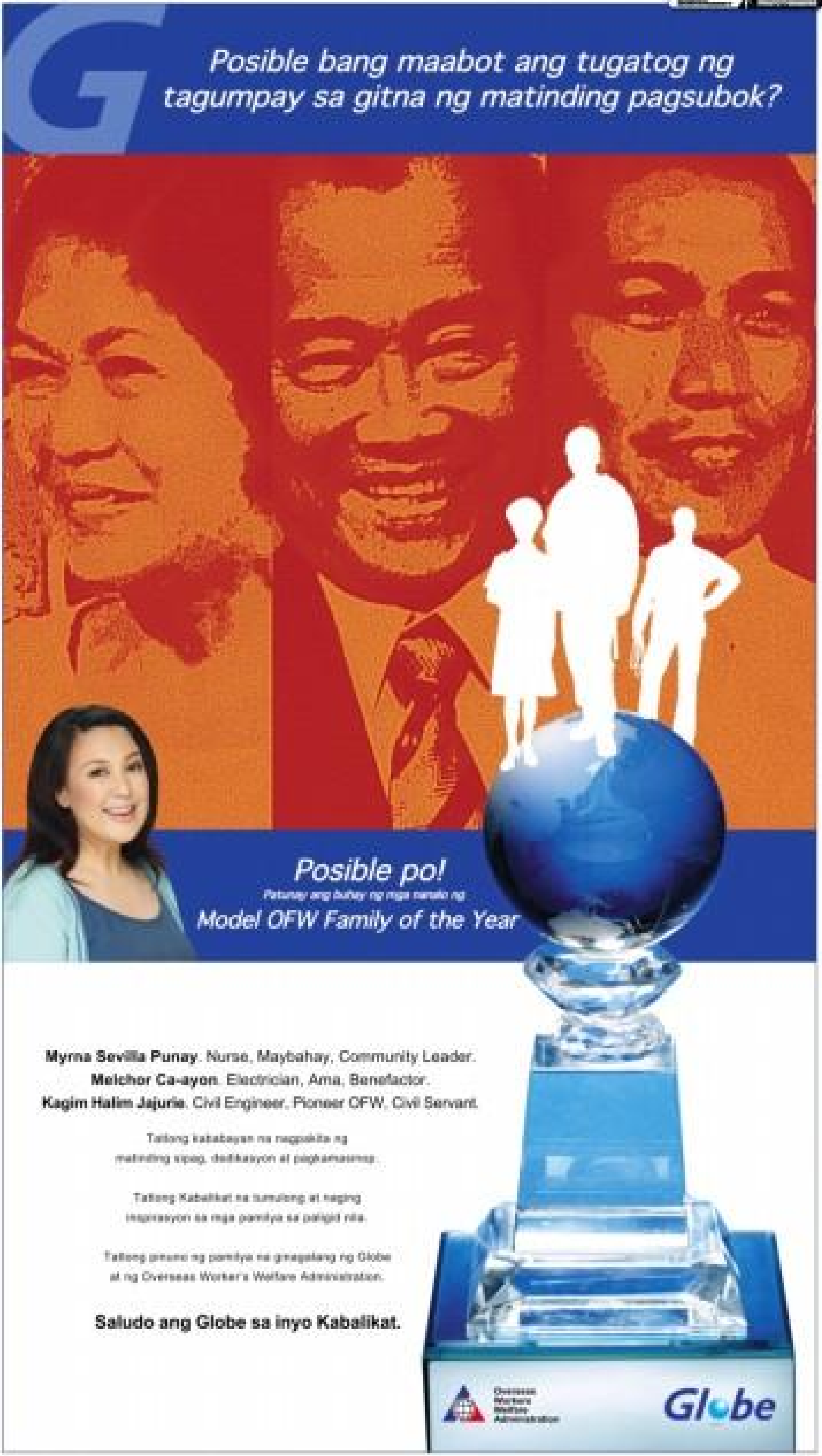




Three different families with three different stories. All driven by a dream of a better future. The same dream that drives over 10 million Filipinos abroad every year. And the good thing is wherever their dreams may take them, Filipinos can always rely on Globe to stay close to the families they leave behind. And the families who stay behind can always rely on Globe to help them stay connected to the ones they love abroad.

Overseas Workers Welfare Administration

opo, Kabalikat, ang lakas mo sa **Globe**


Posible bang maabot ang tugatog ng tagumpay sa gitna ng matinding pagsubok?
Posible po!
Patunay ang buhay ng mga nanalo ng
Model OFW Family of the Year
Myrna Sevilla Punay. Nurse, Maybahay, Community Leader.
Melchor Ca-ayon. Electrician, Ama, Benefactor.
Kagim Halim Jajuria. Civil Engineer, Pioneer OFW, Civil Servant.
Tatlong kababayan na nagpakita ng
matinding sipag, dedikasyon at pagkamasinop.
Tatlong Kabalikat na tumulong at naging
inspirasyon sa mga pamilya sa paligid nila.
Tatlong pinuno ng pamilya na ginagalang ng Globe
at ng Overseas Worker's Welfare Administration.
Saludo ang Globe sa inyo Kabalikat.
Globe

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Opinion

Perfect storm

EDITORIAL



House is major source of corruption

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

A--holes

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

Saving face, eggs on face



SOUNDING BOARD

Fr. Joaquin G. Bernas, S.J.

'Nessun dorma'



KRIS-CROSSING MINDANAO

Noralyn Mustafa

The Speaker's evacuation



THE LONG VIEW

Manuel L. Quezon III

The Jesuits' fault?

COMMENTARY

John Nery

The culture of schools

LETTERS

A more urgent matter than changing our Constitution



Editorial should have discussed issue, not 'colorful language'

Arrogant caterer in the 'pork' incident

Feudal mind protecting old rich



'Seniang' leaves 5 dead in Visayas

Marinduque hit again

Calapan dike breached

19th weather disturbance

Enhanced northeastern monsoon

Trapped

Pinned by tree

INC warned GMA of public outrage

Backing for Con-con

No order from GMA

Not in disarray

Bury Con-ass bid, allies urge De Venecia

Opposition plan

Senate hearings







New 'old town' of heritage houses fuels furor

Metro Cebu hotels offer 'super discounts'

By Jerome Aning

[illegible]

Super clean

[illegible]

Huge discounts

[illegible]



THE HEAVY downpour and strong winds brought about by Typhoon "Seniang" hit Cebu on Saturday, justifying the decision of national organizers to cancel the scheduled Asean summit.

Asean summit reset

[illegible]

'Right decision'

[illegible]

Best dry run

[illegible]

40 meetings

[illegible]

Catanduanes rehabilitation under way



THOUSANDS of coconut trees were damaged by Typhoon "Reming" that passed Catanduanes on Nov. 30.

VIRAC, CATANDUANES—FIVE DAYS AFTER SUPERTYPHOON "Reming" raked the southern towns of Catanduanes for five hours on Nov. 30, the ravaged residential areas resembled a war zone at night as thick smoke rose from burning debris.

Infrastructure damage

Homes

Reming's toll on Catanduanes

Classes, offices in Metro Cebu resume today

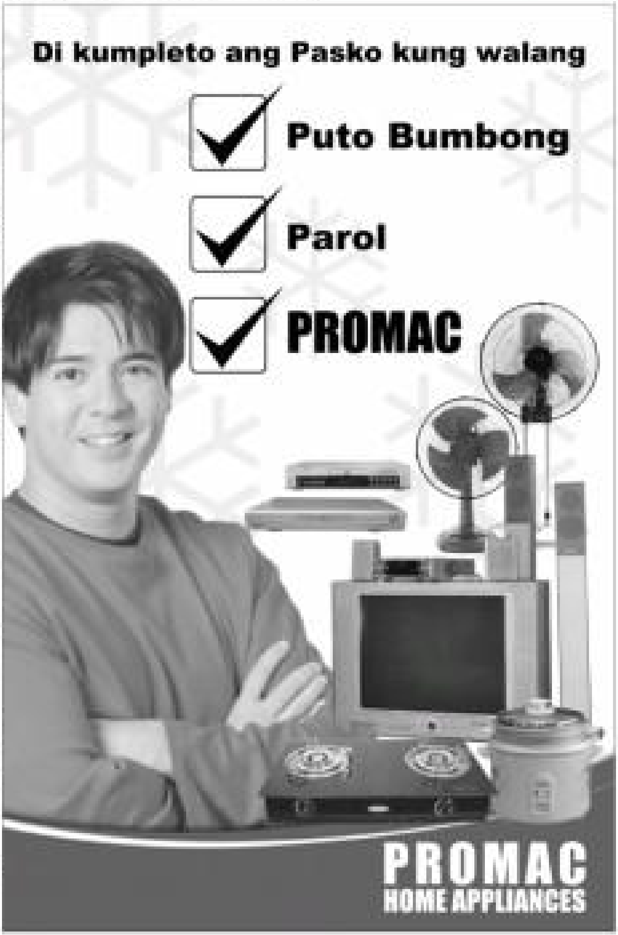
2.5 million truckloads of volcanic debris loosened by 'Reming,' says volcanologist





Catanduanes ...

Relief goods



ROUNDUP

P30M for Isabela city workers

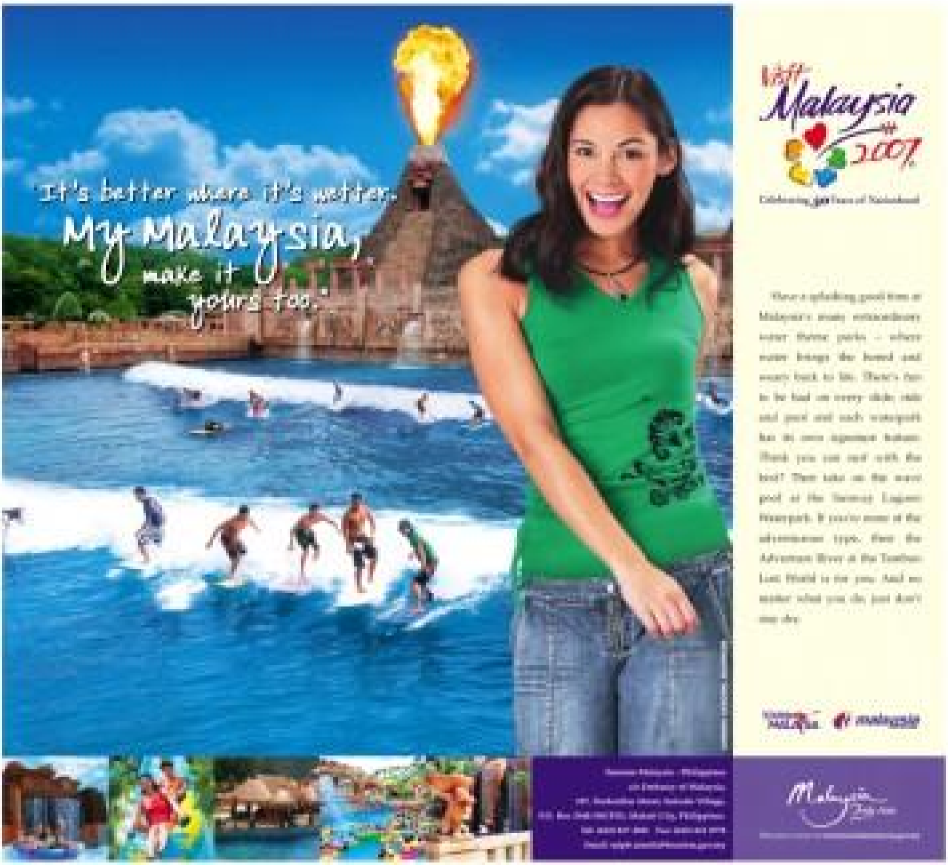
Village urges military to stay

Appeals for donations for Bicol

Teachers learn English anew with software

Pilot schools

Learning atmosphere



₱5-M mangrove nursery launched in Guimaras



A MASSIVE ...

Cordillera elders promote peace, cultural heritage

Opposition

Responsibility

SPORTS

SUERTRES
9 4 6 | 5 2 1

SUPERLOTTO 6/49
4 6 16 19 48 42
P19,910,181.60

Shattered dreams





Gabica, Go settle for silver medals; Payla gains finals

More Asian Games and other sports stories on A31 to 36

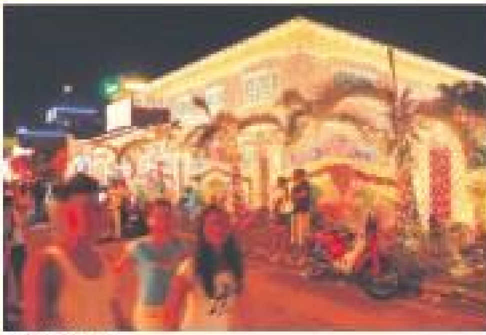


MMDA to operate inn for transients

'Tulugan sa Bayan' project offers clean, safe lodgings for ₱25 a night

Joint project

Added benefits



FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Abortion pill pushers in Quiapo warned



MMDA . . .



QC gov't wants to see more policemen in malls

By DJ Yap

METRO Citizen's call

0918-8985566

Car thieves strike anew in Quezon City

By DJ Yap

METROBRIEFS

Police: Eastern Metro safe

Foundation meeting set

DID YOU KNOW



Chrysler Town and Country



Chrysler Pacifica

On Rights Day, women to protest worldwide against rape in Darfur

[illegible]



THE SPACE shuttle Discovery lifts off from the Kennedy Space Center in Florida and into the night sky Dec. 9 on a complex ISS construction mission.

RESOLUTION ON THE SUSPENSION OF THE MANDATORY USE OF BIODIESEL

Whereas, the Government has taken keen interest in promoting the use of Coconut Methyl Ester (CME), commonly called coco-biodiesel, as alternative fuel in support of the Clean Air Act and improve the lives of coconut farmers;

Whereas, the public transport sector has always been supportive of government efforts toward energy independence and sustainable economic growth without sacrificing health and environmental concerns;

Whereas, Senate Bill 2007 mandates the use of biofuels in the transport sector;

Whereas, biodiesel is a relatively new technology necessitating the need for a more extensive, transparent, and comprehensive technical evaluation on the use of CME or biodiesel as an alternative source of fuel to determine its effects on the engine and ultimately on the lives of the millions of families dependent on the transport industry which would be adversely affected should coco-biodiesel prove to be harmful to the motor engine;

Whereas, it has been reported that coco-biodiesel would result in an increase in the cost of fuel, which in turn would impact on transport fares, and thus be an added burden to the public as a whole, especially the public transport sector, as there is no clear guarantee on engine efficiency and fuel savings;

Whereas, public transport groups were not heard nor represented during public hearings and deliberations on the Senate and House committees;

WHEREFORE, it is RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved :

That the public transport sector reiterates its all-out support on government programs and policies on energy independence, health and environmental concerns;

That, however, a more extensive, transparent and thorough study of biodiesel use shall first be undertaken by government to ensure its promised long-term beneficial effects and continued livelihood of millions of Filipinos dependent on the transport industry;

That, henceforth, it is imperative upon government to defer and suspend the implementation of its biodiesel program pending the results of these studies.

Approved on November 07, 2006 at Quezon City, Philippines.

CLAIRE DE LA FUENTE

MANUEL [illegible]

RAMON CASTILLO

ZENAIDA MARANAN

ROBERTO MARTIN

ELENA ONG

[illegible]

HOMER MERCADO

ALLAN [illegible]

ORLANDO MARQUEZ

ELEANOR SANTOS

MARIO [illegible]

EFREN DE LUNA

HOMER MERCADO

Drought spurs high suicide rate among Aussies

[illegible]

WorldBriefs

Germans find radiation linked to Litvinenko contact

[illegible]

Rumsfeld makes surprise farewell trip to Iraq

[illegible]



Olongapo City
Fiesta 2006
Come...
Celebrate with us!
Olongapo City
Fiesta Queen 2006
Calendar of Events
Mayor James "Bong" Gordon, Jr.
Fighting for Excellence!
Anne Marie C. Gordon
MAJOR SPONSORS:
DAHIL SMART TAYO
AMITY TRAVEL

The WORLD

Probe: No Palace plot in Diana death

LONDON—A LONG-AWAITED REPORT INTO PRINCESS DIANA'S death in a Paris car crash will confirm a French probe that it was an accident and refute theories of a plot by British intelligence, news leaks said.



PRINCESS Diana ... New York Hilton Dec. 11, 1995.

Life and times of Princess Diana

Yunus to banks: Lend to beggars



ONE OF 2006'S STRIKING IMAGES

Kids among UK's top savers

Iraqis bury victims of US air strike

SPORTS

Hidayat beats Lin in badminton final / A34



TSHOMLEE GO (left) and Korean opponent Kim Je Yeong trade kicks in their gold medal match in taekwondo.

3 RP boxers fight in semis

By Ted S. Melendres
Sports Editor

DOHA, QATAR—SUPER-SUBSTITUTE LIGHT FLYWEIGHT Godfrey Castro and lightweight Genebert Basadre try to follow Violito Payla into the finals of the boxing competitions when they take on separate foes Monday in the 15th Asian Games.

RP Sked
Dec. 11



Gaga blows gold bid with costly blunder

By Ted S. Melendres
Sports Editor

DOHA, QATAR—ANTONIO Gabica looked beyond the table and into nothingness as Satoshi Kawabata easily pocketed the 7 ball. There was nothing he could do now but wait until the 8 and the 9 fall as well, and it would be all over.



FLYWEIGHT Violito Payla lands a solid punch to the face of China's Wang Bo that left the latter reeling in their RP-lightning semifinals. Payla advances to the final.

3 RP boxers fight in semis

Catalan, Morales rip nat'l cycling records

By Ted S. Melendres

2006 ASIAN GAMES MEDAL TALLY

SPORTSWATCH

Filter Kings edge Gold Gears

IJC 4-cock derby on

PIM Makati derby starts

Roligon 'Agordabol' Round 3 up



HARRY Dagasdi completes his long jump attempt, nailing a distance of 7.76m on the way to a fifth-place finish in athletics.

Realtors crush Dragons; Phone Pals win

By Marang R. Castillo

Eagle Ridge reclaims Sta. Lucia Cup



SYNCHRONIZED: The Chinese team performs during the Asian Games Synchronized Swimming free routine team final in Doha on the way to winning the gold medal.

Valencia five forges sudden death with North Cotabato



Doping case hits Asiad

World's biggest derby kicks off next month

Why Boom Boom is not yet a Pacquiao



Hidayat has last word on rivalry vs Lin





South wins Korean 'war'

Baghdad celebrates football win with gunfire



Tennis: Li, Mirza rip foes, reach last eight

China needs to be more dominant for Beijing '08

Gold medalist hits taekwondo referees





Taylor triumphs

Yao powers Rockets



Sweden new World Cup leader by 1



CABRERA

SPORTS



Training buddies Milo race champs

By Jasmine W. Payo

TWO TRAINING COMpanions came—and accomplished—one purpose.

Qatar 'import' tops Asiad marathon

Quiñaban PBL's brightest

By Jasmine W. Payo



QUIÑABAN

IN THIS ISSUE

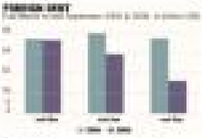


- Third-quarter slowdown, again /B2
- Doubt cast on gov't fiscal ability in '07 /B14

BUSINESS



RP foreign debt burden down by $2.7B



Strong peso prompts borrowers to prepay loans

THE PHILIPPINES HAS TRIMMED ITS FOREIGN DEBT stock by about $2.7 billion as of end-September as local

BPI gets BSP nod to open London branch

CURRENCIES



STOCK MARKET



Stocks seen to rise



Third-quarter slowdown, again

No Free Lunch



Cielito F. Habito

Deja vu

Good news, bad news

Who are buying?

Falling investment

BOI eyes tax perks for 'centers of excellence'

By Abigail L. Ho

RP foreign debt ...



Canada to help SMEs in ARMM

DAVAO CITY—CANADA WANTS TO HELP strengthen small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) as a way of supporting the peace process between the Philippine government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), Peter Sutherland, Canadian ambassador to the Philippines, said.

Canada has set aside a portion of the P45-million Philippine fund under the Canadian International Development Agency (Cida) for the development of SMEs in conflict-torn areas in the region, Sutherland said.

He said Canada believed that economic development would come when business enterprises were more competitive, as this would mean more jobs and better living conditions of the people in the region.

The National Statistics Office (NSO) said the per capita income in the ARMM was only about P11,000 in 2000, which is the lowest among the country's 16 regions.

Per capita income is defined as the total personal income of a certain area in a year, divided by the total population.

"There seems to be a link between economic prosperity and peace and security problems," Sutherland said during a recent visit here. "Areas where there is high economic activity are usually peaceful."

"When we start getting jobs for people, we begin to have vested interest in peace, a kind of a virtuous cycle, so, we're trying to create an environment where businesses come in,"

Seaoil solidifies plans to put up ethanol plant

Oil firm says Biofuels Law good incentive

Transco asks local gov'ts to guard lines

Canada to help ...



Gatchalian to revive airline business

Air traffic boom enough incentive



The De Venecia code

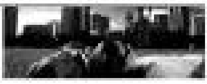






A journey to the birthplace of BMW begins at Autozentrum BMW, only until December 31.

Autozentrum BMW
Quality of Life



To boost trade, RP urged to ease customs barriers

At current level, almost all goods are subject to inspection

Questions of policies

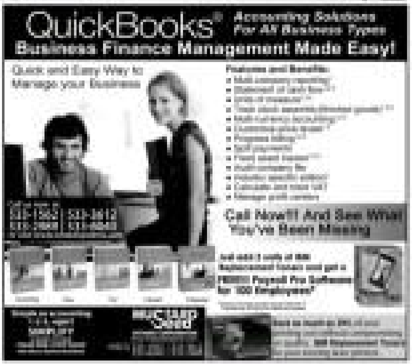
AUB plans to hold IPO in '07

Bank may apply for universal banking license

Farmers seek probe of rice subsidy issues

Stocks . . .







Metro Pacific: Debt-free and raring to grow

Buys out minority shares of former holding firm

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

METRO PACIFIC INVESTMENTS Corp. (MPIC), the new debt-free holding firm that will replace Metro Pacific Corp. (MPC) of Hong Kong conglomerate First Pacific Co., has completed its offer to buy out minority shares of MPC.

In a disclosure last Friday, MPIC said it has acquired 10.5 percent, or 195.[illegible] million common shares, of minority shareholders at a stipulated exchange ratio.

Based on the exchange ratio given, a total of 48.81 million MPIC shares and 146.53 million warrants will be issued by MPIC for the tendered shares.

MPIC earlier secured the approval of major MPC shareholders Metro Pacific Holdings Inc., Metro Pacific Resources Inc., Intalink and First Pacific International Ltd., to acquire 720.3 million common shares in MPC.

The shares were acquired using a four-to-one share swap, or one MPIC share for every four MPC common shares.

MPIC was founded as a corporate vehicle to acquire and accelerate the growth of MPC's former real estate development subsidiary Landco Pacific Corp.

MPIC acquired 51 percent of the equity interest of MPC in Landco for P[illegible] million.

To support the expansion of Landco's businesses, MPIC will raise capital worth P2 billion through a private placement of its shares to Metro Pacific Holdings Inc. or Metro Pacific Resources Inc., and Ashmore Global Special Situations Fund 3 Limited or other funds managed by Ashmore Investment Management Ltd.

The proposed private placement will be conducted following Metro Pacific Investments' tender offer.

The proceeds of the private placement will be used to increase MPIC's investment in Landco to possibly 87.3 percent.

After the private placement, Metro Pacific Investments is expected to have a capital of P3.3 billion.

MPIC earlier said it was looking at strategic sectors that will contribute to social infrastructure such as hospitals, energy and water utilities, as well as toll roads.

It marked significant progress toward this goal when MPIC, along with DMCI Holdings Inc., acquired the 84-percent stake of the government in Maynilad Water Services Inc.

BSP studies request of trust firms to invest in res

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIPINAS is studying a proposal to allow the banking system's P800-billion trust industry to tap the short-term investment instruments offered by the monetary authority.

BSP Deputy Governor Nestor Espenilla Jr. said the proposal came from the Trust Officers Association of the Philippines, whose members wanted to invest in the BSP's reserve deposit accounts (RDAs) and special deposit accounts (SDAs) on grounds that the trust industry posts enough cash from investors.

SDAs are new investment instruments created early this year by the BSP to allow banks to deposit funds with the BSP at market rates and provide them an alternative means of complying with liquidity or cash reserve requirements.

RDAs mature in one to two weeks while SDAs mature in at least three months. These instruments are currently restricted to the bank proper and not the trust departments.

Before the SDAs and RDAs were put in place, banks had to buy government securities approved by the BSP to be able to comply with the liquidity reserve requirement.

With the new instruments, BSP gives banks the option to either buy government securities or deposit the equivalent in deposit accounts with the central [illegible]

Trust operations currently [illegible] a big portion of the banking [illegible] balance sheet items, or [illegible] to the financing or raising of [illegible] does not appear on the balance [illegible]

The banking system's trust [illegible] include unit investment [illegible] funds, common trust funds [illegible] bonds issued under [illegible]

[illegible]



erve accounts

BPI gets nod to open London branch





People, Events & Products

First Filipino lawyer elected president of APAA



ANTA INTRODUCED IN THE PHILIPPINES

GlobeSolutions provides ePerformax with MessageConnect





GMA AT BUSINESS LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Almost 4M Filipinos at risk of PAD



PETRON IS FUEL PARTNER OF CAR OF THE YEAR 2006



OSPFI recognizes Nesvita Pro-Bone



VILLARAZA & ANGANGCO SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Changes in UK work permits to be discussed



2006 AAA SIGNS TELECAST AGREEMENT

Astring-O-sol Specialist supports PSO-HNS Convention



GOVERNOR [illegible] RECEIVES CROWN AWARD

PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF MERIT CONFERRED TO [illegible]



TV DEALS INK WITH INFOCOM TECHNOLOGIES' CUBE ITV



KELLOGGS' TONY THE TIGER WITH COLORING CONTEST FINALISTS



PHOTOLINE OPENS AT SM LIPA



NEWSBARBERS OPENS IN SM SUPERCENTER PASIG



DRIFT! SPEED! GLIDE!



The Nutrient Team: DOH and Wendy's

Fitness First Asia Momentum donates USD10,000 for charity

DLSU-GSB RENAMED AFTER PHINMA FOUNDER





CORNEAL EXCISION WORKSHOP



LAA, LAFI LAUNCH VISION 2020

Aspect Software signs partnership with DTSI

Business



Doubt cast on gov't fiscal ability in '07

Developments on fiscal front seen to make or break economy next year

Congress considers reducing tax perk

DENR issues new mine permits



MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2006
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BUSINESS Monday

The puzzle of the Filipino laborer

Pinoys most preferred labor force abroad, but productivity in RP low



More educated worker

Out-migration trends

InfoTech

Bridging gap between OFWs, families

Yahoo! takes the lead

By Abigail L. Ho





Nokia mobile gaming to reach RP in June



CISCO laboratory

Fujitsu offers training on Cisco technology

Fujitsu Knowledge Centre



VICTORIA Chan and Chan Kok Bin

Always a step ahead

[illegible]

Pretzel shop expanding

[illegible]

Senate Bill No. 2231: Partially Automated Elections in 2007

MAPPING THE FUTURE



Manuel A. Alcuaz Jr.

[illegible]

The puzzle of the Filipino laborer

[illegible]

BUSINESS Monday

Balancing the equation

A LEADER'S WAY

John C. Maxwell



Radical equations



GOINGS-ON



P & G helps Bicol





"HOMAGE to Vivaldi: Autumn IV"

LIFESTYLE

Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso Associate Editor Lito B. Zulueta

MONDAY ARTS & BOOKS • TUESDAY FITNESS • WEDNESDAY 2BU • THURSDAY FOOD



"SUMMER XX"

EDWIN WILWAYCO IN THE BIG APPLE

At the top of the heap



"SUMMER XX"

For his Manhattan show, the abstract expressionist is showing a suite of works inspired by Vivaldi's 'Four Seasons'

By Lito B. Zulueta

IF ALL ART ASPIRES to the condition of music, then the visual artist seeks to embody and trace in colors and lines the intrinsic music that is in nature. Such perhaps is the paradox of abstraction. While seeking to eliminate the image and narrative of anything that is figurative, representational, objective and natural, putting everything into a matter of mood and nuance, into the ineffability of shade and echo, the art cannot really escape the world. It paints itself to a corner where it recognizes that space is corporeal, and time is of the essence, felt and actual.

In "Homage to Vivaldi," Edwin Wilwayco continues with a remarkable suite of abstract expressionist works that started with his Paris show last June, "Silent Music." These works were also based on Antonio Vivaldi's music and to highlight, a prelude to this show, which will open Dec. 28 at the Philippine Center in Manhattan, New York.

How Wilwayco will fare in the Big Apple seems already prefigured by his successes earlier this year in Spain, Germany and in Paris. At the least, it could be expected that Wilwayco and New York would play beautiful music together.

The suite are a tribute to Vivaldi's "Four Seasons," the 18th century composer's most famous concerto. Vivaldi's seasons are portrayed in the richest and most intricate of textures. "Winter" is dark and somber, "Summer" is bright and breezy but conjuring a thunderstorm tentatively in the final movement. Wilwayco's painterly gestures equal if not exceed Vivaldi's powerful invocations of the seasons.

Counterpoint

The New York show will consist of more than 40 narrow and long panels that could be hanged horizontally or vertically. Perhaps when placed on a wall depending on the buyer's predisposition, the panels would look like an evening of winter, spring, summer and autumn, perhaps to complement or to contrast with the actual season. In musical terms, the panels may serve either as consonance or counterpoint.

I think Adele Reinald echoes this in the catalogue: "We are thrust into the zone of Wilwayco's experience. Counterpoint would be there but for the perfect, almost dangerous balance of push and pull." In short, Wilwayco's seems to approximate the conductor's delicate art.

What is good perhaps for the New York-based buyer of the suite of paintings is that the most striking works are those depict-

AT THE TOP C4

The female nude in the female gaze


"CHERISHED"


"JEALOUSY"


"BELOVED"

By Constantino C. Tejero

THE FEMALE NUDE IN ART has been interpreted through the centuries almost always by male artists as if by natural right. It's just about association, actually, like when you say "farmer" it's a man, if "worker" it's a woman, and if "hairdresser" it more must be gay—which is not true, of course.

So when a show of female nudes done by a woman opens, there comes a kind of jolt, a shock of recognition, as it were. A first step toward this realization should be to spot the difference in such rendering of the female nude from those of manifestly male artists.

Consider Anna de Leon's "Fragments," 13 pieces in mixed media on canvas and paper, until Dec. 17 at Conelds Gallery at the Artwalk, L/3, Bldg. A, SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City.

In most renditions by male artists, the female nude is presented either brazenly or coyly in a convolution of postures and poses, depending on the artist's libidinal disposition, spiritual aspiration or sexual preference, like mood, excitability, daring or shamelessness—so that often the female anatomy starts to look like something turned up and down for dissection.

In this show, however, the artist's temperament is just about even. De Leon has rendered her nudes in long languid lines so that the subject (the same woman, as we can see) appears invariably lethargic, but there is a variety of moods and emotions here, though none too dramatic but just enough to suggest the state the subject is in.

The pieces are chiefly rendered in earth tones, various shades of brown, gray—a muted coloration that gives the impression of monochrome—and sometimes accented with very bright indigo, lilac green, burnt umber, aquamarine.

"I have always been fascinated with the juxtaposition of flowing lines, patterns and textures," says the artist. "The colors that resonate with me are earthy shades complemented by a stroke of bright color. I like to render my paintings in soft application."

With her face often cropped out of frame or hidden by a cascade of hair, her body angled to appear in natural pose or repose, the subject becomes anonymous, therefore, Everywoman. This ordinariness is an apt representation for the female psyche and its delicate nuances, ebb and mood/emotions.

A slightly calibrated turning of the body from front to side to back, from canvas to canvas, and the titles of the pieces change from "Coquette" to "Cherished" to "Fancy Free."

A back view of her sitting on the floor against the wall with her head on her knee is transformed into a frontal view on another canvas, and "Yearner" becomes "Oblivious."

An odalisque is fittingly called "Beloved." A back turned to the viewer is what she has "Jealousy."

Accentuating such tension are collage strips of wood veneer. The wooden fragments obtruding into the image gives the impression the woman is boarded up, her identity being obliterated. This symbolic device the artist explains as "the emotional splinters that traumatize a woman's soul."

In other words, the show is but a jigsaw puzzle and these paintings the fragments that should interlock to compose the enigmatic whole.

This is De Leon's first solo exhibit. An interior designer by profession, she admits she would have gone into full-time art-making earlier had she not been afraid of rendering the human body.

"All those years I felt intimidated by it," she says. "Years of practice and going to endless sessions of life drawing allowed me to overcome my fear of rendering the human form. And so I feel that the female nude is an apt metaphor for my coming out into the art world."

It would seem natural then that if ever someone has to radiate the nude gaze it should be a woman. If that's not a natural right, it certainly looks like poetic justice.


"INTIMACY"

Malang's 'Oils' at West Gallery



"THREE Vendors"



"FLOWER Vendor"

Banglos sculptures are good Christmas gift ideas



"TEDDY Bear" and "Jump"

Filipina captures Yosemite images in winter

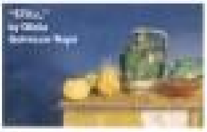


EL CAPITAN



UPPER Yosemite

VISUAL ARTS



Gelvezon-Tequi at Hiraya

'Two Generations' at Kaida

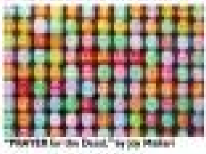


"SAMPAGUITA"



"MOTHER and Child"

Luz at Francesca



Mallari, 'Upgrade' at Pinto

Gutierrez at La Souffle





"TWO Lips"

Benitez-Gutierrez at Fernando



LANTERN FESTIVAL AT CCP

At the top . . .

From page C1



"SPRING II"

Tricky art



Art show at Casa San Miguel

LifeStyle



Russian pianist Ilya Rashkovskiy makes Manila debut

By Pablo A. Tariman
Contributor

AFTER THE HIGHLY successful Russian Cultural Festival in June with Tchaikovsky laureate Dennis Matsuev, another Russian invasion will take place on Dec. 13 at Philam Life Theater.

Making his Philippine debut is Russian pianist Ilya Rashkovskiy, winner of the First Hong Kong International Piano Competition and also one of the top prizewinners of the Marguerite Long-Jacques Thibaud Competition in Paris.

What made the Hong Kong competition super credible was the power jury composed of Vladimir Ashkenazy (chair), Leon Fleisher, Gary Graffman, Vladimir Krainev, Cristina Ortiz and Pascal Roge.

Reported Chang Tou Liang, a piano pedagogue from Singapore and competition chronicler: "This was to be the competition of first prizewinners, and the career with a seeding system that allowed victors from earlier competitions direct entry into the second round.

"There were only seven takers, but no victors from Van Cliburn, Leeds, Warsaw, Moscow, Sydney or Santander. This figure eventually became six after Giuseppe Andaloro (winner at London 2005) pulled out at the last minute, having won first prize at the Busoni competition in Bolzano just days leading to this competition.

"There were also to be 40 contestants in the first round, but only 14 were selected to perform in what had to be the most leisurely five days of competition ever. By the end, only six would make it, to be joined by the six [illegible] from the second round.

"Whatever the screening jury did, it paid off handsomely as the 12 quarter-finalists who performed at Hong Kong's City Hall Auditorium were a varied and interesting bunch, mostly worthy of their selection."

In the first round, Liang noted: "Ilya Rashkovskiy is without doubt the most polished and competition-savvy of all the candidates. He looked the part, and his every move and act suggested a winner. There was never an ugly sound in his playing, everything tasteful and no hair out of place in his reading of Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 24 in C Minor, K. 491. He also wrote his own first movement cadenza, it was idiomatic and oozed elegance from every pore.

"His Rachmaninov Third Piano Concerto was another example of the triumph of technique and finesse over individuality, will and flesh. Almost a 'model answer' performance of a great masterpiece, full of color and nuance, and not a hair wrong, the kind of playing that all piano juries just love, there was little if not anything to fault or quibble about."

For his Manila debut, Rashkovskiy will play Mozart's Fantasy in C Minor; Schubert's "Wanderer" Fantasy in C Major; Schubert's Fantasy in B Minor; Liszt's Fantasia quasi Sonata; Chopin's Fantasy in F Minor; and Balakirev's Oriental Fantasy Islamey.

Call [illegible] or [illegible].

Dulaang Sibol's Christmas presentation

ON DEC. 12 (3 P.M.), 13 (3 p.m.) and 16 (6:30 p.m.), Dulaang Sibol of Ateneo High School stages its traditional Christmas presentation, "Come to the Manger."

The theatrical collage starts with the singing of Christmas carols, then the presentation of chamber theatricals such as "A Tale of Three Trees", and for the finale, a mini-musical called "The Most Mischievous Angel."

Venue is Tanghalang [illegible], Ateneo High School. Tickets are at P150 each. Call [illegible].



A SCENE from "The Most Mischievous Angel"

Does Palomar mean Pigeon House?

By Angelo V. Suarez
Contributor



"DREAM Houses"



"ROOM"

Procession of simulacra

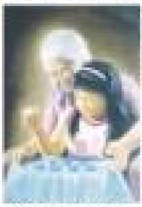
Manufactured dreams

From virtual reality to communal art

By Gina Dumaraole
Contributor



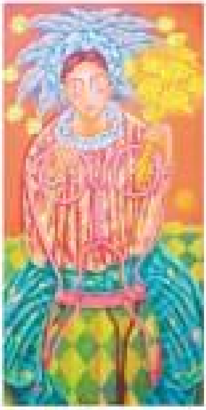
"LOTUS Series," by Ronaldo Ruiz



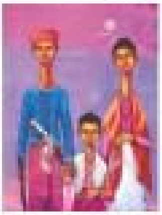


RONALDO Ruiz with his artwork

Manila gallery opens in Singapore





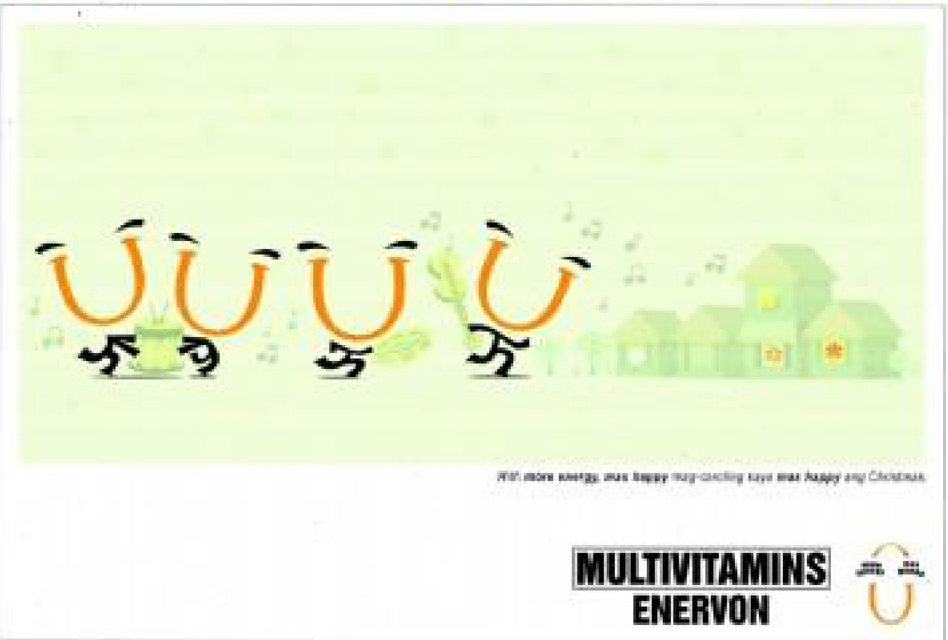




From virtual reality . . .







Sto. Niño and Marian icons on exhibit



STO. NIÑO de la Casa Santa de Loreto, from the collection of Gino Marasigan, circa 20th century

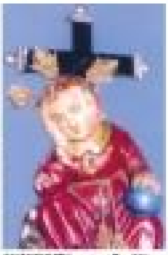
THE THIRD OF A SERIES OF EXHIBITS TO celebrate the Centennial of the Coronation of Our Lady of the Rosary, La Naval de Manila, opens Dec. 16 and runs until Jan. 21, 2007 at the Museo de Santo Domingo, in the Santo Domingo Church, Quezon City.

The exhibit, Venite Adoremus, is conceptualized and executed by production designer and museum curator Gil Nicolas, [illegible].

According to the museum director, Fr. Ferdinand Bautista, OP, most of the images to be featured are from the collections of Tony Jerezo, a restorer of images, and Noel Abogadao, an interior designer.

Other items on exhibit are the antique vestments of the Sto. Niño de La Naval, the Sto. Niño de la Casa Santa de Loreto of Gino Marasigan and the collection of [illegible] of handmade figures [illegible] by the sisters of the Beaterio de Sta. Catalina de Sena, circa 1920s, courtesy of Delia Cardona Reyes.

A rare mid-19th century polychromed, wooden bambino, from the collection of Gil



[illegible] 20th century Sto. Niño de Pasion from the collection of Gil Nicolas



SALVADOR del Mundo, a late 18th century Niño courtesy of Tony Jerezo



STO. NIÑO Arcadia, courtesy of Crescenciano Marasigan

Nicolas, with its original halo and ringlet hairpiece, is the focal point of the show.

Rare and unusual depictions of the Niño Jesus are also provided by the devotees such as Jerome de Jesus, Tony Adriano, Dong Raymundo, Doug Tengco, Manny Castro and Raymond Nicol.

Devotion to the Niño Jesus takes its roots in the great mystery of the Incarnation, "and the word was made flesh and dwelt among us," says John in his gospel.

To marvel at the sacred mysteries of the Infancy of Christ—from his nativity to the adoration of the magi, and to his early years with Mary and Joseph—is to reflect on the great love of God for mankind, theologians have said. This love has been manifested in special devotions to the child Jesus throughout the ages.

As early as the third century, the feast of the Epiphany was already being celebrated in the Western Church. During the fourth century, a tradition was held placing the cradle of the child Jesus between two animals as foretold by the Prophet Isaiah: "The ox knoweth his owner and the ass his master's crib."



GIL Nicolas, curator of the Museo de Sto. Domingo

By the 13th century, the Franciscans initiated the feast of the Holy Name of Jesus.

Indeed, the childhood of Jesus is a popular devotion which is very much alive in the Catholic Church for nearly a thousand years—being related by the early church fathers such as St. Athanasius and St. Jerome.

Many of the saints had a special devotion to the child Jesus like St. Bernard of Clairvaux and St. Francis of Assisi, who created the first tableau of the nativity. Some have been blessed by visions of Jesus as a child like St. Rose of Lima, St. Agnes of Montepulciano, St. Catherine of Siena and St. Anthony of Padua.

Stories abound that St. Teresa of Avila always traveled with the image of the infant of Jesus in founding her new convents in Spain.

It was the era of Spanish Baroque that set the stage for the various devotions to the infant Jesus, which then spread to the kingdoms of Europe before reaching the Philippines.

In 1521, Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan gave a statue of the holy infant to Queen Juana, which from that time on has been revered as Señor Sto. Niño de Cebu.



STO. NIÑO de La Vega, courtesy of Tony Jerezo



TERRANOVA
Free QBX Slippers
Hong Ten
"Get One Planner for Free"
All Round Up
Buy 5 Get 1 Free for Unisex Boxer Short
"Every Day"
U.R.S & Inc.
kipling
AUTUMN-WINTER 2006
Trendy Shopping at
SM MEGAMALL
CHRIS SPORT
"0% Interest Buy Now Pay Next Year"
blue navy
APPLE & EVE
Oshkosh B'Gosh
Oshkosh Sale
Anniversary Extended Sale
pinkbox
Mossimo Yuletide Surprise
Columbia
Via Venetto
Thanksgiving Sale
SPEEDO
"Yuletide Cheers Sale"
Promotional Sale
HUMOR POST
Fila
"Buy a Sole, Feed a Soul"
ISLAND SOUVENIRS
20%, 30%, 50% OFF
ARROW
MIN FOOD
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CADI
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Wendy's
"Great Treat at Wendy's Hamburger"
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Indulge your taste at
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cavana
Kenny Rogers
Kenny's Noche Buena
Santa called a Cab not a sleigh and loaded Great Pizzas to give away
This Christmas Season make your celebrations extra special only with Yellow Cab Pizza.
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SARAPINOY Meals
The SOUP KITCHEN
Dunkin Donuts
CHRISTMAS BUNG-BUNGS
Cooks EXCHANGE
Max's Restaurant
MERRY MILLIONS
Win P1,000,000
WATSON
up to 70% OFF
Western Marketing
WOW Magic Sing
"P1 Million Sing Katutak Na Pamasko"
regalong pambahay
MUEBLES ITALIANO
"Year End Sale"
BPI Express Cash
"Wise Spending Wise Winning"
ELBA
SM SUPERMALLS

LIFESTYLE

The power of the PEN





Quo vadis, litterae Philippinae? Apostles of the PEN ascertain their bearings

Timely

New media





The power of the PEN











Gloria Goloy, Doris Trinidad to receive literary honors



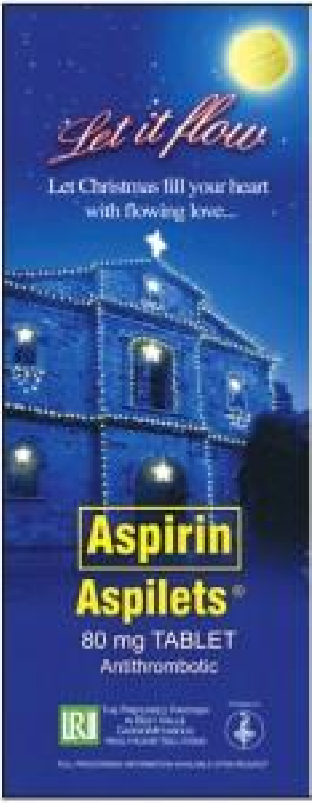




The power of the PEN

"Education is the key to our deliverance."

Diverse audience



Let it flow, let it flow, let it flow...

It is the yuletide season once again, the most anticipated year-ender that signifies the onset of nostalgic Filipino traditions such as Christmas Carols, Simbang Gabi and the favorite Noche Buena. Everyone delights in the wide food selection served in successive celebrations of these events running from company Christmas parties, Family Reunions to the ultimate feast on the eve before Christmas.

Although one cannot avoid consuming extra amount of food than usual, the heart should be kept constantly on guard, especially people with hypertension and diabetes, by avoiding risks from such indulgence. Hypertension and diabetes already pose a higher risk of plaque formation and blood clots which can block the natural flow of blood in the body. These blood clots can thereby lead to serious cardiovascular events, even death.

In these times of celebrations, maintaining a healthy diet can reduce risk factors such as high blood cholesterol, high blood pressure and excess body weight, preventing the patient from heart attack and stroke. This includes eating a variety of fruits and vegetables, including fish, lean meats and skinless poultry in your meals, limiting intake of foods high in calories or low in nutrition, and minimizing eating foods high in saturated fat and cholesterol. For greater protection, the American Heart Association* also recommends the daily dosage of aspirin for those in high risk of developing heart attack and stroke. **Aspilets**, the Gold Standard for Primary Prevention of Heart Attacks and Strokes, is most commonly known for its blood-thinning effect or **"pampalabnaw ng dugo"**. This helps prevent complications by stopping blood platelets from sticking together, and thus reduces the chance that blood clots will form and block arteries. Aspilets ensures that in times of hectic seasons like Christmas, the heart is well prepared for its demands.

With or without an occasion, it always takes a simple amount of prevention to keep the heart in the right condition-healthy diet and the right dosage of aspirin. While caught in the overflow of the season's banquet, keep your heart healthy with the Right Lifetime Partner. Confidently with Aspilets, we can let it flow.

*American Heart Association: Diabetes, Heart Disease and Stroke. "What about other stroke risk factors?"

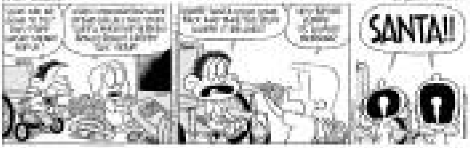


FoxTrot



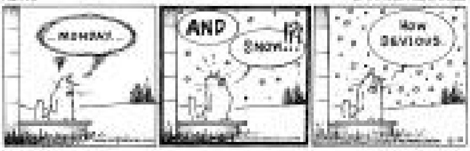


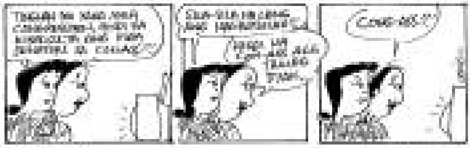
Baby Blues

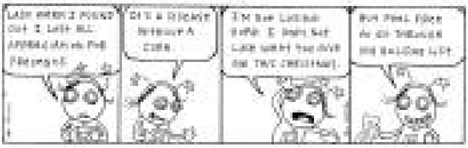




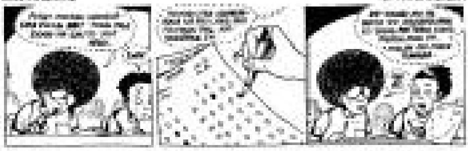
Mutts

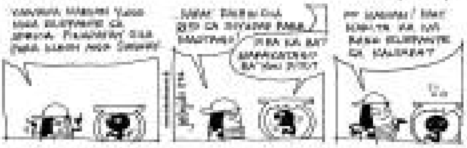


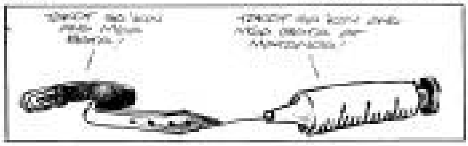






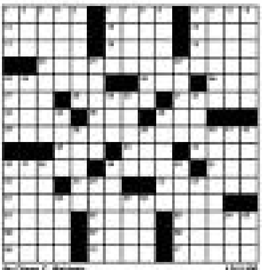


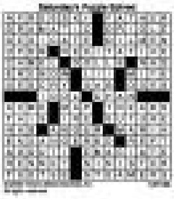






Daily Crossword





Horoscope

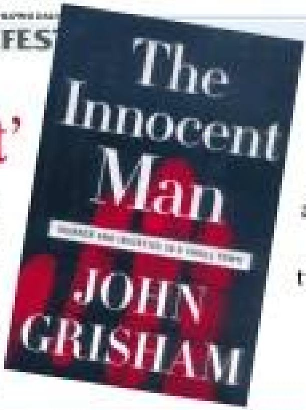
Conceptis Sudoku

6		3	8					
	8		2	4	6		7	
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	9							7
	6		5	8	7		2	
					4	5		3

Difficulty Level ★

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

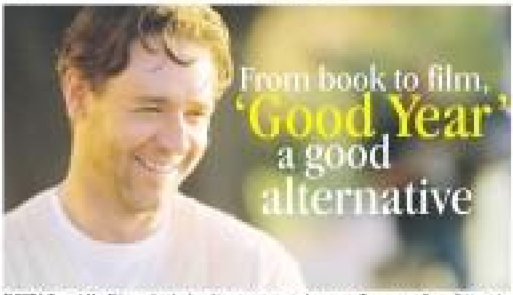
Grisham sides with the 'Innocent'



Life continues to imitate fiction as courtroom king John Grisham turns to nonfiction for this riveting tale of justice gone awry



'The First Leon' musical

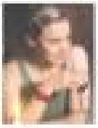


From book to film, 'Good Year' a good alternative



Alternative





Rustica Carpio performs in China

ENTERTAINMENT



JEFFREY RUSTIA

Broadcast designer gets Pamana award

By Armin Adina

Surprised

Playwright

BROADCAST F2

High school hell in 'Pitong Dalagita'



CRISTINE Reyes as one of the troubled teens

HELL F2

High scho...

Broadcas... designer gets...

Repackage RP

...ol hell in 'Pitong Dalagita'


THE CAST of "Pitong Dalagita"

Roundup



'Mission Impossible' video

'Wild and the West'



Classy and sassy filmmaking team

Viewfinder


Nestor U. Torre

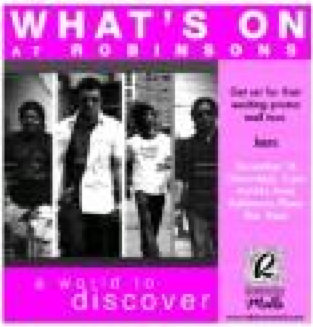
'An Inconvenient Truth'

ENTERTAINMENT





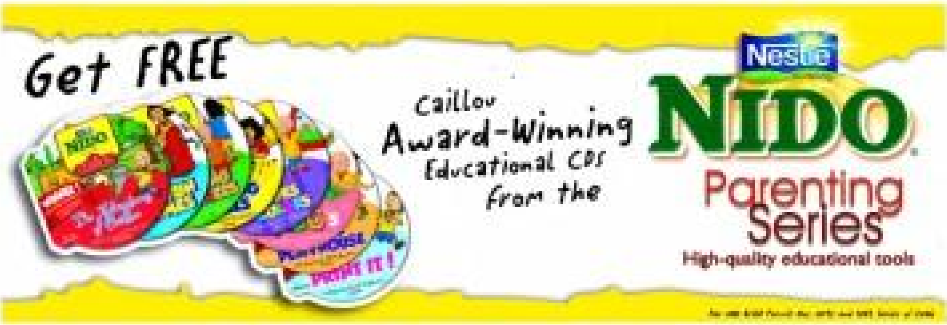




THEY CAME. THEY SAW. THEY partied.

Big stars turned up for our 21st anniversary celebration







'Apocalypto' out to defy predictions



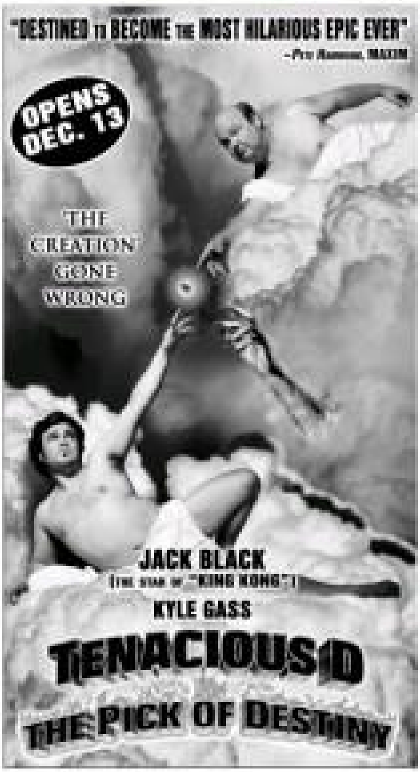
Typical blockbuster

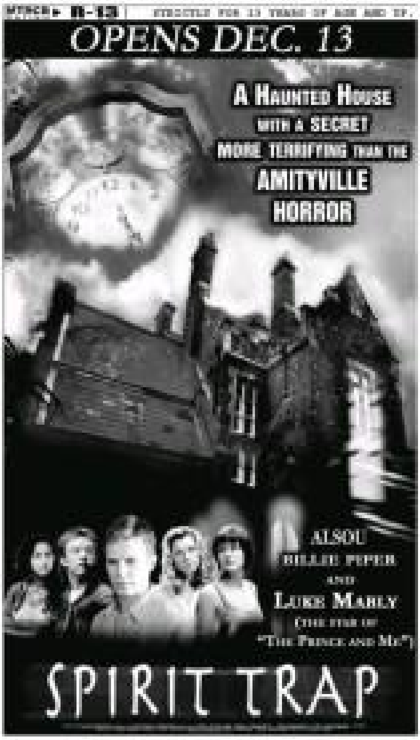


Once is enough

Aggressive

Track record









HOSTS Edu Garcia and Ashley Rook the "Idol" finalists—(from left) Drae Ybañez, Raymond Bajao, Aron Cruz, Apple Chiu, Ben Dinglo, Miguel Mendoza, Giancarlo Magdangal, Max Morales and Jan Nieto.



CUESHE live.



ZSAZSA cozies up to host.



IMAGO rocks fans.



BIMBO Cerrudo shares the stage with Reyes.



JED MADELA



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